

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No. : To Be Assigned
Applicant : Norbert ERHARD, *et al.*
Filed : April 16, 2004
Docket No. : 028972.53932US
Customer No. : 23911
Title : Spray Head for a Mold Sparying Tool

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 CFR §§ 1.97 and 1.98**

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 CFR §1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 and/or listed herein and which the Examiner may deem relevant to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

The relevance of EP 0 724 486 B1 to the subject matter of the present invention is given in the present invention.

An English abstract summarizing the disclosure of each of the German Patent documents is submitted herewith.

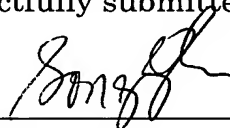
The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed (1) no later than three months from the application's filing date or (2) before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits (whichever is later), and therefore no certification under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e) or fee under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) is required.

Information Disclosure Statement dated April 16, 2004

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

April 16, 2004

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Song Zhu', is written over a horizontal line.

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Substitute for form 1449A/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT <i>(use as many sheets as necessary)</i>			Complete if Known		
			Application Number	To Be Assigned	
			Filing Date	April 16, 2004	
			First Named Inventor	Norbert ERHARD	
			Art Unit		
Sheet	1	of	1	Examiner Name	
				Attorney Docket Number	028972.53932US

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials ¹	Cite No. ¹	Document Number		Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code ² (if known)				
		US-4,760,961		08/1988	NAGAI	
		US-5,603,984		02/1997	KEIM <i>et al.</i>	
		US-5,916,367		06/1999	WOLLIN	
		US 2002/0124895	A1	09/2002	THIELE <i>et al.</i>	
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
Examiner Initials ¹	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document		Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ³ -Number ⁴ -Kind Code ⁵ (if known)					
		DE 37 41 474 A1		06/1989	BAUER		
		DE 40 16 377 A1		12/1990	BAUER		
		EP 0 724 486 B1		07/1998	WOLLIN		

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. 1 Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). 2 See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. 3 Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). 4 For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. 5 Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. 6 Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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